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Dr. Smith (B.Sc. University of London), M.Sc. (Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources) and Ph.D. (Evolution of Maize), University of Birmingham (England). Research Fellow at Pioneer Hi-Bred International, employed by Pioneer since 1980. Research interests include genetic diversity, issues related to germplasm access and benefit sharing, use of morphological and molecular data for variety identification, demonstrating the importance of sustainable use of genetic diversity to improve agricultural productivity, pedigree analysis of crop varieties and intellectual property protection (IPP). Responsibilities include managing a technical support group that provides data required to obtain patents and Plant Variety Protection (PVP) and to undertake research to demonstrate the important role of plant genetic resources and IPP in plant breeding and agriculture. Dr. Smith serves on intellectual property committees of the American Seed Trade Association (ASTA), the International Seed Federation (ISF) as Chair, and the Biotechnology Industry Organisation (BIO). He is a Fellow of the Crop Science Society of America and received the 2005 ASTA Chairman's Distinguished Service Award for service to the industry in the field of intellectual property protection. Dr. Smith chaired the C8 (genetic resources) Division and the Sperling lectureship committee of the Crop Science Society of America. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the journal *Plant Genetic Resources, Characterization and Utilization*. Dr. Smith has served as a Board member of Bioversity International (previously the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and currently serves as Board member of the National Council of Commercial Plant Breeders. He has served on a review panel of the CGIAR Generation Challenge Program. He is a member of the advisory council of the Bioethics Program and Iowa State University, and a member of the CropLife International germplasm access and benefit sharing committee. In 2011, Dr. Smith was appointed to a 4 year term on the US National Genetic Resources Advisory Council. He recently represented industry through the International Chamber of Commerce at a technical expert meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity. He chairs the Pioneer DuPont Genetic Resources Issues Team, a group that was instrumental in securing a \$1m contribution to the Global Crop Diversity Trust. He has published around 100 peer reviewed scientific papers including on genetic resources and intellectual property protection.